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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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22 JUL 1994

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Policy Div.
440-745

Honorable Bob Packwood
United States Senate
259 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3702

JUL 27 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Packwood:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Jim Spinden, Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The Further Notice sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The Further Notice seeks comment on this analysis and asks interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The Further Notice also invites parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost.

The Further Notice also explicitly seeks comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the Further Notice seeks additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The Further Notice also seeks comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

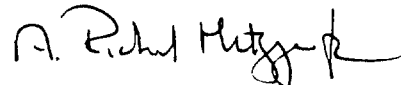
BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. For example, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

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Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully examine all of the comments submitted in response to the Further Notice, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Richard Metzger, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

A. Richard Metzger, Jr.
Acting Chief
Common Carrier Bureau

JUL 13 '94 11:48AM

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RANKING REPUBLICAN

SENATE COMMERCE,
SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SENATE JOINT COMMITTEE
ON TAXATION

United States Senate

BOB PACKWOOD
OREGON

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PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH TRANSMISSION

DATE: 7/13/94

TO: FCC - OFFICE OF LEG. AFFAIRS

FAX: 632-7092

FROM: Matthew Lowe

MESSAGES: _____

WE ARE FAXING (3) PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET

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July 13, 1994

Lou Sizemore
Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Sizemore:

Enclosed you will find a letter I received from one of my constituents regarding Billed Party Preference; CC Docket #92-77.

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Please send your findings and views to my Washington office:

Senator Bob Packwood
ATTN: MATTHEW LOWE
259 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3702

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



BOB PACKWOOD

BP\mdl
Enclosure



WASHINGTON
COUNTY,
OREGON

1994 JUL -6 AM 10:43 June 30, 1994

The Honorable Bob Packwood
259 Russell SOB
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Packwood,

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

As the Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon, I respectfully request that you oppose the proposal before you to mandate Billed Party Preference (BPP) calling in correctional facilities.

My greatest concerns center around our losing the ability to control inmate calling, and the potential loss of revenue that is currently used to benefit our inmates.

The first issue is plain and simple, community safety. We recently had an instance where one of our inmates was using the telephone system to place threatening and harassing calls to his children and to witnesses who were scheduled to testify against him in his trial for the murder of his wife. Our current system allowed us to block his access to those telephone numbers. Later this same inmate used third party calling to continue his harassment. Again, we were able to stop this activity.

The second issue is also significant. Revenues generated from the inmate phone system are an important local asset. At a time when local governments are strapped for funds and when the public is demanding increased accountability from those who choose to commit crimes, this proposal before the FCC would run counter to those needs.

I certainly understand your concerns regarding the potential abuse by unethical providers. However, there are safeguards that could be implemented that would not eliminate our ability to manage inmate calling and to generate reasonable revenues for use in inmate programs.

Please, I urge you, do not approve the proposal for a BPP system in correctional facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Spinden", is written over a horizontal line.

Sheriff Jim Spinden

Jim Spinden, Sheriff

Sheriff's Office
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124